(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to pay the above tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per shareholders agreement between participating State Governments, levy for non agricultural use of land is not leviable on Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL), as the Maharashtra State is one of the shareholders in the Corporation.

(c) Ministry of Railways has taken up this issue with Government of Maharashtra to review its decision and exempt Konkan Railway Corporation Limited from these charges.

Engineers and workers for rail safety

3239. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engineers and workers on roll and entrusted with rail safety, track maintenance, bridge maintenance, etc., as on 31st March in 1990 and 2002; and

(b) the number of engineers and workers on roll for the above works under Eastern Railway, before and after the bifurcation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New train between Rewari and Delhi

3240. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the new time table, a new train was to be introduced between Rewari and Delhi, from July, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the train has been introduced as, proposed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Metre Gauge Passenger train between Rewari and Delhi Sarai Rohilla had been announced in the Railway Budget, 2002-2003.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The said train has not been introduced so far due to resource constraints. However, the train is likely to be introduced during 2002-2003.

Rail projects in Orissa

3241. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going railway projects in Orissa;

(b) the progress of each project, as on date;

(c) the year-wise allocation made for execution of individual projects, during the last three years;

(d) the target date for their completion;

(e) the original estimated cost of those projects;

(f) whether allocations made were fully utilized in that particular financial years or were carried forward to next financial years giving the details thereof, with reasons; and

(g) whether paucity of resources is the main reason for slow execution of projects; if so, the steps taken to overcome the bottleneck?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (f) The required information is given in the Statement, (see below).The project-wise budget allocations made and expenditure incurred during each of the last three years is indicated therein, the targets, wherever fixed, are also given. The funds allotted in the particular year are to be utilized in the same year. The main reasons for shortfall in expenditure as compared to the budget outlay have been due to delays in land acquisition, prolonged rains, slow progress of works and failure of contractors, etc.

(g) The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources. Steps have been taken to mobilize resources through increased budgetary support, public/private partnership and sharing in project funding by some of the State Governments. Ministry of Defence has also participated in funding two projects of strategic importance. Initiatives have also been taken to mobilize non-budgetary investment to improve the overall availability of resources for expediting the progress of ongoing projects.